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Weekly National Intelligencer.

BY GALES & SEATON. JAMES C. WELLING, ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1864.

THE DRAFT AS NEWLY EXPLAINED.

We have noticed in some of our contemporaries the statement that a new construction, or if not a new construction at least a new explanation, has been given to the last call of the President for 500,000 troops. In commenting on this call the day after it was made public, we directed the attention of our readers to the ambiguity of its terms, and we may add we have frequently had occasion to regret a want of distinctness, precision, and definiteness in many of the orders directng the operations of the officers charged with executing the enrollment act.

It is very probable that this obscurity proceeds from the informal manner in which the business affairs of the Government are conducted under the present Administration. This informality has become so marked that Senator Sherman, of Ohio, in commenting on it a few days ago, ventured to express the deliberate opinion "that it is absolutely impossible for the Government to be carried on unless there is more information, harmony, and acquiescence in its various Departments. It is impossible for the Treasury Department to know how much money is to be provided for a certain purpose unless the estimates are submitted to the Treasury Department."

The practice of the Administration in the con duct of affairs, under the usages established by President Lincoln, was thus discussed by Mr. Senator Johnson, of Maryland, in the same debate We quote from the official report of the proceed ings of the Senate on the 12th instant :

"I understand that the practice which has been adopted by this Administration is, when the Secretary of State wants to effect any thing in his Department he comes and speaks to the President for himself, and the first knowledge any other member of the Cabinet gets of what is going on is when he sees it in the newspapers; and so in relation to the other members of the Cabinet.

to the other members of the Cabinet.

"I have no potential voice with the President. If I had I would try to keep him in a path much straiter than the one he is pursuing. I believe that he and his Cabinet are doing what they understand to be for the best. If I believed what I have heard coming from his friends on this floor in relation to him and his Cabinet I should think the sooner we got rid of the whole of them the better for the country. But I suggest the mistake arises from the very fact of their not getting tegether and deciding for themselves in joint council what is the best policy to be corrected.

tells him, 'It is probable we shall call for some two or three hundred thousand men.' But as I understand it, according to their practice, and according to their practice come two hundred thousand men without consulting the Secretary of the Treasury, or without consulting anybody but the Secretary of War. The call is made, and the attention of the Secretary of the Treasury is first called to it by seeing in the gazettes of the day a proclamation from the President calling for five hundred thousand more men. He sees what the trouble is to be in his Department; he sees, or may fancy that he sees, almost bankcuptcy. It is enough to run the man mad. That would be bad in itself to those who know him; but it is enough

We incline to the opinion that many things in the conduct of the different operations of the Government, in the several Executive Departments, may be best done in the way adopted by President Lincoln, but there are others which obviously require concert of counsel as the condition of unity and vigor in action.

Any reader who will recall the several orders that were issued by the Proyogt Marshal General in initiating the first draft under the snrollment lsw will be quite ready to infer that the difficulty of which Senator Sherman and Senator Johnson complain extends to one of the ramifications of the War Department. It was made painfully evident to the whole country that that law was attempted to be put into execution without the proits application should be placed beyond doubt or for war purposes. She came in a disabled merchantman controversy, and to this end the announcement of its enforcement should have been preceded by a maritime police, in accordance with orders from Paris, was calculated and assigned. In the absence of such an exposition the whole subject was left in a state of mystery, confusion, and incertitude exceedingly distressing to the popular mind.

To dispel the mystery still resting over the terms of the last call it has just been explained, under a new construction given to that call for 500,000 men, that the State of New Hampshire is entirely exempt from the necessity of furnishing any additional troops. It was to be presumed that a rule applied to one State would be made to hold good in all, and accordingly we have the intimation that New York is not to be so much troubled to meet her liabilities under the last call as many of her citizens had feared. The interpretation by which this result is achieved is as follows: the President's peremptory call for 500,000 men does not mean, it men, that the State of New Hampshire is entirely peremptory call for 500,000 men does not mean, it is said, that that number of additional men is of wanted: nor does it mean even that 200,000 men are wanted over and above the 300,000 called for on the 17th of October last. . It means that unde all the calls only 500,000 men are wanted, against which number are to be credited all that were raised by the draft of July last, (the commutations paid to be counted as so many men;) also, all that

This important information, instead of being published simultaneously with the promulgation of the President's order, is allowed to transpire in the shape of knowledge gained on personal inquiry at the office of the Provost Marshal General. For instance, in the Buffalo Courier of the 16th instant we find the following communication, addressed by a gentleman of that city to Supervisor Charles E. Young, who has been the most active member of the County Committee on bounties and enlistments. Mr. Alberger, being in Washington, was requested by Mr. Young to ascertain the true state of the case, and his statement is as follows:

"WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 6, 1864.

"Washington, February 6, 1864.

"C E. Young, Supervisor, Buffalo.

"Dear Sin: Agreeably to your request, I called upon the Provost Marshal General for information respecting the President's last call for men. Col. Fry very promptly gave it as the understanding that the last call was simply the balance required to make up the call of 500,000 which yet remained from the draft of July, 1863, the volunteers received between July and October 17th, and from the call of October 17th to February 1st.

"To make the statement perfectly plain, we will sup-

"To make the statement perfectly phin, we will suppose the quota of our county under a call of 500,000 to be 3,000; supposing that 1,000 were raised by substitutes, drafted men and commutations paid under the draft of July, 500 raised by volunteers between July and October 17th, and 1,000 under the call of October 17 to date, in Il 2,500; leaving but 500 to be raised under the last call "If you have raised your full number for a quota of 500,000, from July last to the present time, you will not be required to raise any under the last call.

"I am, very truly, your obedient servant,

We need not indicate to the people of this District how interesting to them is the information thus obtained, to the effect that all the men raised by the last draft, including the persons who paid their commutation money, are to be credited against our quota under the draft for 500,000 men.

PAUL AMBROSE'S LETTERS.

The reader will find in another part of to-day's Intelligencer a continuation of the Letters of PAUL AMBROSE. Those who read the earlier numbers of the series will recall the ability, sagacity, and fine analysis evinced by the writer in laying bare the secret springs of the great insurrection which, in the name of "secession," has convulsed the land and drenched it with blood. And we hope that none of our regular readers will be deterred by its length from giving a careful perusal to the paper we publish to-day from the same practised pen. Emanating, as we have previously stated, from a Southern gentleman who for many years occupied with distinction a seat in the National Legislature, and who subsequently held a responsible post in the administration of an important Executive Department of the Government, these disquisitions will be found to bear the marks of practical statesmanship, in conjunction with a rare faculty for penetrating and clearly stating the hidden motives and subtle agencies which combined to give the leaders of the insurrection such a fatal supremacy over that large portion of the Southern people whom they induced to embark in the illfated movement of secession.

MR. DAYTON AND THE REBEL CRUISERS.

A Paris correspondent of the New York Times states that Minister Dayton has entered his protests with the French Government with reference to the rebel vessels, the Florida and the Rappahaonock. Mr. Dayton objected to the Florida being allowed to recruit a new crew in place of the old one which had abandoned her, as a violation of the neutrality laws. To this the French Govern ment replied that they only count the men that come in on the vessei and go out on her; that they do not take cognizance of the names or nationality of the men, but only of their number; in fine, that they have nothing to de with the personality of the mer, and that they cannot take cognizance of the fact that changes of persons are made on board the vessel. The American Minister claim ed, nevertheless, that no sailor can be recruited for the vessel in a French port without a violation of their own law; and he argues further, that they might as well apply the principle of number and not of men to cannon and other articles of the first necessity on board ship, a principle obviously unfair, singe inferior men, the same as inferior cannon, may be thus cont nually replaced by good

With regard to the Rappabannock the French Government deciare that she came into port under stress of weather, and must be permitted to make repairs. Subsequently, when 140 packages arrived for her, Mr. Dayton formally protested against their being allowed to go on board, but on the ground that they contained articles pecessary for the repair of the accident that had befallen her machinery they were permitted to go on board. Mr. per preliminary care to methodize its operations Dayton has been assured that as the vessel came into port and comment hem to the popular confidence. It a merchantman, she must go out the same ; she will not was of the ve first necessity that the equality of be permitted to obtain a single article in a French port and may go out a repaired one, but nothing more. And that there may be no deception about this the French comparative tabular exhibit disclosing the quota of visit the vessel every day. The American Minister is not each State and the grounds on which that quots satisfied with the conduct of the French Marine Office in this case, and has strongly protested against it.

THE REHABILITATION OF FLORIDA.

The following order, recently lissued in the Department of the South, explains the transfer of troops to Florida under Gen. Gillmore, about which there has been a good deal of speculation:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH, Fugitive citizens of the State of Florida within the limits of this Department will have an opportunity to subscribe to the same oath and secure certificates in the office of the Post Commander at Hilton Head, South Carolina.

By command of Msj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore: Ep. W. SMITH, Ass't Adj't General.

FLEECING NEGRO RECRUITS.

The New York Evening Post of Wednesday says: "It appears from the statement of two hundred and sixtythree men belonging to the Twentieth regiment Umted paid to be counted as so many men;) also, all that three men belonging to the Twentieth regiment United have been raised under the call of October for 300,000 men, and in fact all the men that have been or may be procured, by draft or volunteering, therefore, or \$220 for each man, went into the hands of the received only \$21,161 bounty, or about \$80 each, while received only \$21,161 bounty, or about \$80 each, while the county paid the brokers \$73,600 for the men; \$57,439 the county paid the brokers \$73,600 for the men; \$57,439 the refere, or \$220 for each man, went into the hands of applied where it might alleviate distressas resulting from the received only \$21,161 bounty, or about \$80 each, while received only \$21,161 bounty, or about \$80 each, while the county paid the brokers \$73,600 for the men; \$57,439 the county paid the brokers \$72,600 for the man, went into the hands of applied where it might alleviate distressas resulting from the liberty of the white man. I care less now what may become of the negro, as a freedman, while I care all the men some guarantee for his staff, to have their services when he should be received only \$21,161 bounty, or about \$80 each, while received only \$21,161 bounty, or about \$80 each, while received only \$21,161 bounty, or about \$80 each, while received only \$21,161 bounty, or about \$80 each, while received only \$21,161 bounty, or about \$80 each, while received only \$21,161 bounty, or about \$80 each, while received only \$21,161 bounty of the white man. I care less now what may be come of the negro. the runners."

THE NEXT PRESIDENCY.

As the following Circu ar Letter, though marked strictly private," has found its way to the light in the columns of a city contemporary, we give it insertion in our own, as belonging to the current political history of the times through which we are passing. The fact that it is marked "strictly private" may perhaps be justly said to have procured for it an earlier publicity than it would have otherwise received, and, as the originators of this movement in favor of the present distinguished Secretary of the Treasury could not have expected to give force and effect to their views by any thing less than a public indication of their preferences, the circular was, in any event, destined sooner or later to take the shape of a public manifesto. At any rate, no one will dispute the right its authors possess, in common with their countrymen, to canada, and the circular was any rate, and one will dispute the right its authors possess, in common with their countrymen, to canada, and the circular was also any rate, and one will dispute the right its authors possess, in common with their countrymen, to canada, and the circular was also and their section will admit and to this end Government might perhaps be justified in leading its end government might perhaps be justified in leading its end government might perhaps be justified in leading its end government might perhaps be justified in leading its end government might perhaps be justified in leading its end government might perhaps be justified in leading its end government might perhaps be justified in leading its end government might perhaps be justified in leading its end government officials, for expevass the claims of rival candidates for the next Presidential term, destined to cover a period fraught with issues that will require the highest statesmanship which the nation can command. It was perhaps impossible for them to express their preferences for the eminent citizen they have designated without seeming to come in conflict with the claims of the present incumbent of the office to a re-election, but as the whole subject has been already opened by the friends of the latter, there can, we suppose, be no complaint as to the timeiness of this demonstration.

WASHINGTON, (D. C.) FEBRUARY, 1864. Sin: The movements recently made throughout the country to secure the re nomination of President Lincoln render necessary some counteraction on the part of those unconditional friends of the Union who differ from the

action of the people it was both wise and patriotic for all true friends of the Government to devote their influence to the suppression of the rebellion. But when it becomes evident that party machinery and official influence are eing used to secure the perpetuation of the present Adninistration, those who conscientiously believe that the nterests of the country and of freedom demand a change n favor of vigor and ourity and nationality have no choice out to appeal at once to the people, before it shall be too ate to secure a fair discussion of principles.

Those in behalf of whom this communication is made

have thoughtfully surveyed the political field, and have arrived at the following conclusions: 1. That, even were the re-election of Mr. Lincoln desir

able, it is practically impossible against the union of in-fluences which will oppose him.

2. That should be be re-elected his manifest tendency wards compromises and temporary expedients of policy will become stronger during a second term than it has been in the first, and the cause of human liberty and the dignity and honor of the nation suffer proportionately; while the war may continue to languish during his whole Administration, till the public debt shall become a burden too great

3. That the patronage of the Government, through the necessities of the war, has been so rapidly increased, and to such an enormous extent, and so loosely placed, as to render the application of the "one term principle" absolutely essential to the certain safety of our republican in

years than are combined in any other available candidate year had been added to be a statesman of rare ability, and an administrator of the very highest order, while his private character furnishes the

surest obtainable guaranty of economy and purity in the management of public affairs.

5. That the discussion of the Presidential question, already commenced by the friends of Mr. Lincoln, has developed a popularity and strength in Mr. Chase unexpected even to his warmest admirers; and, while we are aware dition to manifest its real magnitude, we are satisfied that t only needs systematic and faithful effort to develop it to an extent sufficient to overcome all opposing obstacles.

For these reasons, the friends of Mr. Chase have deter-

mined on measures which shall present his claims fairly and at once to the country. A central organization has been effected, which already has its connections in all the States, and the object of which is to enable his friends very where most effectually to promote his elevation the Presidency. We wish the hearty co-operation to all those in favor of the speedy restoration of the Union upon the basis of universal freedom, and who desire an administration of the Government, during the first period of its new life, which shall, to the fullest extent, develop the capacity of free institutions, enlarge the resources of the country, diminish the burdens of taxation, elevate the standard of public and private morality, vindicate the honor of the Republic before the world, and in all things make our American nationality the fairest example for imitation which human progress has ever achieved.

If these objects meet your approval, you can render efficient aid by exerting yourself at once to organize your section of the country, and by corresponding with the Charman of the National Executive Committee, for the purpose either of receiving or imparting information.

Very respectfully,
S. C. POMEROY,

Chairman National Executive Comm

POLITICS IN MARYLAND.

The Union State Convention of Maryland assembled at Baltimore Monday, and was called to order by Collector HOPFMAN, who read the call of the Unconditional Union Central Committee. There was a full attendance of delegates, every county being represented. SEBASTIAN F. STREETER, of Baltimore, was called temporarily to the great pretensions and great consequences and liabilities, and is therefore to have a vast influence on the countries. The credentials of members being presented, a motion was made that a committee on credentials be appointed by the Chair, and an amendment proposed that from one latitude to another, under the superintendence each county appoint the member to represent it on the of the Government. committee. This (the American says) appeared to be a A superior race is now, under the decree of this bill, test question, the friends of Henry Winter Davis proposing and favoring the appointment of the committee by the Chair, whilst those opposing him voted for the appointment astute Massachusetts white taskmaster. Slavery, thereby the delegates. The vote being taken, resulted in favor of the latter-ayes 42, nays 32. The Chairman appointed committee on resolutions, and the Convention took a re-

A despatch from Baltimore last night states that the tone of the Convention was strong for immediate emancipation, and resolutions were adopted endorsing the Administration and declaring President Lincoln to be the first and only choice for the next Presidential term.

PENNSYLVANIA SENATE. An election was held on Friday last in the twenty-first

senatorial district of Pennsylvania, composed of the counies of Indiana and Armstrong, to supply the vacancy occasioned by the alleged resignation of Major Harry White, now a presoner at Rickmond, and whose absence from Harrisburg, leaving the Senate a tie, has thus far prevented the organization of that body. Dr. Thomas St. Clair, a Republican, was chosen to succeed him. This district usually polls from fifteen to sixteen hundred majority against the Democrate.

General FREMONT writes to Major General Schenck under General Pope as an unmerited insult; ' that since draw that question from the exciting canvass of the day, then he has been waiting orders; that he was once then he has been waiting orders; that he was once difference. promised a command, but did not get it; that he has kept the war, and it has been used accordingly."—N. Y. Post. liberty, that hereafter is to interest me in the discussions

CONGRESSION & L.

FREEDMEN'S BUREAU-THE NEGRO POLICY

The House of Representatives, on the 19th instant, resumed the consideration of the House bill to establish a Bureau of Freedmen's Affairs, reported rom the select committee on the subject.

Mr KALBFLEISCH spoke in opposition to the bill Mr KALBFLEISCH spoke in opposition to the bill. He thought that the most sincere friends of these freedmen of African descent only demand that they be taken care of during their infancy as freedmen, and a whole some guardiauship be placed over them during that period, and this, in his opinion, should be done by the philanthropist and charitable.

If these freedmen (he said) are incapable of assuming the rights and privileges to which they seem to be entitled.

through the agency of Government officials, for experience must have long since convinced the most skeptical that there is no safety in such a system as is proposed by the bill under consideration. Let the intention of its framers have been ever so pure and honest, the proposed manner of putting the bureau into operation is defective unjustifiable, and fallacious from its inception; it would e next to impossible to find so large a number ployes as would be necessary to honestly and faithfully carry out the benevolent intentions of the bill.

If it is intended to cultivate the confiscated or aban doned lands or plantations and improvements as they now exist, and place these freedmen upon them with an official to govern and control their labor and domestic affairs, as appears to be contemplated, who can doubt for a moment that it will institute a species of servitude which must prove worse in its results than the system of slavery countenance of any one who is opposed to supplanting one evil he knows by another he knows not of, and which may

prove the greater of the two.

If, on the other hand, it is intended to divide the confiscated or abandoned lands into small parcels, tenements and all necessary outbuildings will have to be erected for the accommodation of the freedmen, and farming utensile and cattle procured for their use. Should the Supremo Court of the United States decide—as he did not doubt i would—that the Government only acquires the right thold confiscated real estate during the lifetime of the per son attainted of treason, the incurring of the vast expend ture necessary to carry out the purposes of the bill upon so slight a tenure would be madness in the extreme, en-tirely unwarrantable; and, granting even that it could be legally done, it is without a semblance of justification to urge in its favor.

amount of money to be expended under the provisions of the bill. The general power it confers to issue bonds for purposes named therein without fixing the amount, even admitting the whole action to be within the scope and power of Congressional legislation, is one which should only elegated in cases of the most urgent necessity.

The proposed project would enable the Federal Govern-ment to seize upon lands originally abandoned by their loyal ect a class of people who are to hold them, and prescrib power more despotic than the imperial Government of Russia within any portion of its territory. It destroys at a blow the solemnly guarded power of States over their lands and inhabitants, and may give to social and political enemies in remote portions of the country supreme legis which a free people claim exclusively the right to exercise themselves. No portion of the American people would for nent permit their lands to be thus taken from ther and placed in possession of the negro race without a bloogy resistance. The descendants of a free race who had been despoiled of their rightful inheritance, prompted would require for their permanent subjugation a militar f ree that would impovered our people and jeopard ou

The project is a disloyal and unpatriotic impediment in the way of restoring this once happy Union. It is a part of a policy which is attempting the impossible thing, that of bringing up the negro race to a participation with the white in the privileges and duties of citizens. It first makes them free by force, and then, because they are an abject and helpless people, they deprive American citizens without process of law of their lands, place the negroes in possession of them, and undertake to maintain them

The plan proposed by the bill opens the way to great fraud, and places the African freedmen under masters who can have no sympathy with them and are controlled by a legislative body remote from them. If Congress pos esses the power to provide in this manner for these eman cipated slaves, where is the power to end? Is it confined to freedmen of African descent, or can Congress legislate to provide as well for the unfortunate whites and the rem nant of colored people to be found in the free States! I so, it requires but little segacity to forstell what results might be caused in consequence of allowing this bill to come the entering wedge to a system of legislation which could not be other than deplorable in its effects upon our social condition.

Mr. BROOKS also addressed the House in opposition

to the bill. He said that the territory on which it is to operate is larger than were the whole thirteen origina States—a territory extending from the shores of the Poto mae to the Rio Grande; and a bill enacting in subst that all that vast territory, in connection with the confisca tion bill that has been passed, is to be dispossessed of its present holders and to be occupied by the black race, with nasters from a distant country to rule over them. bill is vast, therefore, in its territory, vast in its objects. vast in its purposes, vast in its intentions. It establishes new bureau of the Government, having the seeds in it of great department, which, as we are told in a quotation from the Solicitor of the War Department, is in the end likely to produce an officer who is to have a seat in the Cabinet and be an adviser of the President. The bill, too. is illimitable in expense. No one can see or foresee what amount of money is to be expended under it. Modest in name, with its commissioners and its sub commissioner with its clerks and superintendents, yet it is a bill with try. Superintendents, masters, clerks, employes, persons of all kinds and classes, are to be transported by this bill

come in conflict with an inferior race; the African is be met with the white man; the poor, humble son o fore, in this conflict of races, is not only to be abolished, but the slave is to be abolished also. Two races, the superior and the inferior, cannot live in equality. The law of nature, and especially the law of settlement on this Continent, shows that an inferior race perishes when att mpting to live on terms of equality with a race that is superior. Disease, desolation, and death are therefore the doom of the hapless negro. If the census of this city could be taken of the original slaves who were here when emancipation was decreed in this District, thirty per cent. of them would be found in their graves. Look at the assemblages of emancipated Africans in this city, huddled five or six families in a little room, literally rotting with disease, under your decree of emneipation. Look how the race is being exterminated in your freedmen's camps on the banks of the Misgi-gippi, the great father of waters. See what a spectacle is there presented. Death is cutting down hundreds, thousands, and tens of thousands as death seldom cut down mortal man before. Death there is the doomed decree to the African As surely as the plagues of London or Athens decreed the death of the stricken victims, so surely does the march of the army, liberating the negro from all protection and surrendering him to the eruel, merciless employment of the calculating white man, doom him to disease, hunger, starvation, and death.

Mr. BROOKS said that while he, with others, mourged prosecuted to such extremities as that cannot be to the destruction of the laws of his country, he must cease General Fremont writes to Major General Schenck chairman of the House Military Committee, that he requested to be relieved from the army of Virginia because he "regarded the order which reduced him to serve invitable. So far as he had influence he intended to with-

before this House. The violence of Massachusetts has dene in two or three years only what Christ or the church of Christ was twelve or fifteen hundred years in accomplishing in the Roman empire. The Saviour himself struck not off the chains of the slaves whom he addressed from the Mount of Olives. Nor did the Apostle Paul, in his address on Mars Hill, in front of Athens, strike off the chains of the slave in a moment or an hour. But he inculcated principles, he sowed the seed which was twelve or lifteen hundred years in ripening, but which in the end brought about the desired end without war or the violent loss of life. But here in two or three years we have madly attempted the liberation of the negro, and at what cost? A million of men have been drawn from their households and firein the hospitals by diseases, while at the same time a deb is fastened upon us of thousands of millions of dollars. Before we have finished the war the debt will be four thousand millions—a huge, moustrous, and crushing debt—which will inflict upon posterity, upon my children, your children, and their children hereafter for hundreds of years, a taxation under which they will groan as negro slaves have grouned under the white master; a taxatic ago we had no national debt worth a moment's consideration; but during this civil war, in only two or three years under the spirit which has guided it, we have had inflicted on us a national debt now nearly, or soon to be, as large as the national debt of Great Britain, and which will grind the people of this country for hundreds and hundreds of years, if this war is longer persisted in in the spirit which

I recognise the abolition of slavery as existing for other easons than I have given, and call to a law of the rebel Congress which I now hold in my hand. The first sec-tion of this act declares that all male free negroes shall be conscripted and brought into the Southern army. The econd section of the act provides for organizing twenty thousand of the Southern slaves, not exactly as soldiers but as sappers, miners, and navvies, or laborers, in the Southern armies. The South, therefore, has taken the secondary step to the first step which was taken by the people of the North. There is the Southern act for arming first the free negroes of the South and second for armslavery in the rebel States; for the moment arms are put hands of slaves, that moment slavery is abolished, South as North. The necessities of this war wil their slaves, and thus more and more to abolish their slaves If, then, war lasts two years, we shall see every able-bodied negro in the South that can be spared either in the attle field or as laborers in preparation of the battle field They must, they will take that course. Imperious necessity exacts it of them. The negro of the North will meet the negro of the South; and when "Greek meets Greek hen comes the tug of war." Go on, then, conscript the negro; re-enslave the negro. It is the best thing you can do in humanity and philauthopy to the negro to re-enslave him and doom him to the army. You have made this a negro abolition war. You have changed its original pur pose, and therefore the negro should be called out, and should fight the battles of the party which has taken them into their keeping. I do not, for one, intend to resist

your movements in that respect any longer.

This "freedmen's bill," as it is called, is not worthy of a practical mind. The whole scheme is one of money making; the whole scheme is one for the use of the black race by Northern masters. But if, in the name of humanity, you are acting for these negroes, introduce some more practical measure, without consolidating and cen-tralizing all the powers of this Government. Do not aban don the beautiful theory of States, and convert this Goveroment into a consolidation and centralization, solely for the money making purposes of this bill. Make it practi cal-make it self supporting. Do not burden the Federal Treasury with it. Let it take care of itself, ag is the theo ry of our Government. We have no more right to feed and support negroes than we have to feed and support white men. The thing is not written in the Constitution. It is not written in buman nature. If you are to advance the pay of negroes in the army, make them, as you make white soldiers, support their wives and children. Give the negro eight or nine dollars a month and auttract four or five dollars for the support of his wife and children I protest against my constituents being taxed for it I protest in the name of the laborer of the North, in the name of the workman of the North, in the name of the capitalists of the North. I protest against it in behalf of the white women and white children of the North. Burdea not the Treasury with the support of Southern negroes. If it be a mere scheme of partauthropy and bene-volence I will contribute to it, according to my means, as much as other gentlemen will contribute; but come not to the Federal Treasury for the support and sustemance of the negro.

At the close of Mr. BROOK's remarks the House pro ceeded to the consideration of the naval appropriation

Mr. C. A. WHITE, of Ohio, being entitled to the floor addressed the House during the allotted hour in discusing questions which he conceived to be of vital moment t se of the Union and of free government. He main tained that the war in which we are engaged is wrong itself; that the policy adopted by the party in power for its prosecution is wrong; that the Union cannot be re-stored, or, if restored, maintained by the exercise of the coercive power of the Government-by war; that the war is opposed to the restoration of the Union, destruc rights of the States and the liberties of the people ; and that it ought, therefore, to be brought to a speedy

and immediate close.

If he were asked how he would make peace he should answer, by recouciling the differences of opinion, that conflict of principle which is the sole cause of the war, by fair, honorable, just, and reasonable concessions-not b meeting it, fighting it, and crushing it. He did not think that this is the whole sum of our moral, social, and politic cal duties. That is the voice of passion, and not the lan-guage of reason. It is the sentiment that burns churches and convents, whips Quakers, inspires the horrors of the inquisition, and which has reddened the pages of history with the shed blood of the martyrs, saints, and herces all ages. He had cherished the hope that the progress of stianity and the march of an enlightened civilization had carried us beyond this point. If we should succee in overrunning the South with our arms, and reducing them to a state of subjection by force, we would be far very far, from a restoration of the Union. That would be a Union founded in force, and not consent-the very oppo site of that established by the wisdom of our fathers. would be the union of Fingland with Ireland, of Poland with Russia, of Hungary with Austria-a Union to be execrated and despised by every true American who breathes that spirit of patriotic piety that animated the bosoms of our fathers. It would be a Union of hate, pinned together by bayonets-a Union which it would cost us our liberties to maintain, which could only be preserved by the unholy trinity of perpetual war, perpetual taxation, and perpetual conscription. He had no heart for such a Union as that; he rejected it, and should regard its establishment as the greatest calamity that ever befell this country except the war which produced it.

War, he argued, cannot restore the Union, maintain the supremacy of the Constitution, and enforce the laws in revolting States. The subjugation of those States and the holding sud governing of them as subject provinces would involve the loss of our own liberties, require a large standing army, oppressive taxation, and a system of forced conscription revolting to a free people, utterly at war with the jundamental law of the land, and subversive of the principles upon which the Union of the States are founded. Then shall we wage a war against the Confederate States with the view and for the purpose of an nihilating and driving into banishment their entire white population! Such a war would be revolting to the moral se of the civilized world and shocking to humanity.

Subjugation he regarded as not only impolitic, but im-pressible. We are impaled upon a dilemma that has but two horns, and we must choose upon which we will throw ourselves—peace by a compromise of conficting interests, principles, and opinions, or an exterminating war of the Horth against the South. We had just as well prepare our minds to meet this issue. Twenty million people pos-sessed of all the physical and material resources with which it had pleased God to bless us might possibly destroy, sweep from the face of the earth, the six mill of our race and blood inhabiting the Confederate States. Such a thing might be possible, but before entering upon the profit and loss to be necessarily incurred. A war prosecuted to such extremities as that paned be terminated in five, ten, or even twenty years. The constant draft upon the energies of the Government would compel it to make corresponding requisitions upon the life, blood, and tressure of the peeple who would have nothing that it was not disloyal to call their own. Under this process the Government would, like an athlete man, grow stronger by the continual exertion of its strength, the people grow weak just in proportion as the Government grows stronger. Nor would the necessity of the Government cease with the war. The burdens of an untold amount of nations indebtedness and other causes will create a necessity for a signong centralized Government, that its exorbitant de mands upon the fruits of labor may be enforced. The great conflict between capital and labor is just now being inaugurated. The Government bands which represent the indebtedness of the country are being purchased up

by the capitalists of the East at thirty-five and forty per cent. below the par of coastitutional currency, and they are receiving six per cent. interest thereon in gold. Our indebtedness is now popularly stated at three thousand millions of dollars, and is increasing at the rate of more than two millions per day. All this indebtedness will go into the hands of capitalists exempt from State, Federal, or municipal taxation. The result of all this is that the product of labor or the laboring and producing masses of the country will owe to the capitalist non-producing class an amount equal to one fourth the value of the entire taxable property in the United States. The principal office, able property in the United States. The principal office, then, which your Government will have to perform after this war is at an end will be to provide for and enforce p yment of these exorbitant demands of the rich upon the poor, acting simply the part of a trustee or receiver, wrenching the money from the fists of one class and emp-tying it into the coffers of the others. What will be the result of this new state of things thrust upon us by the war? The establishment of classes, a peasantry and an aristocracy. The same causes that produced these results in the Old World will in the New. Mr. WHITE said that the ruin impending our system

may be retrieved and averted by a speedy peace; but if the war is to be prosecuted to the extremity of extermin-ation, he could see nothing in it but the utter wreek and overthrow of our proud fabric of free government, and the erection upon its ruins of an absolute imperial despotism that may wield its barren sceptre over the waste and des-olate fields of the South, the prostrate liberties and bleed-ing forms of freedom at the North. These results he deemed so certain, so inevitable, and so apparent, that he deemed so certain, so inevitable, and so apparent, that he could not believe that the reflecting, thinking, and reasoning men of the Republican party intended them. He would do them the justice to believe that they entertained no such monstrous ideas and cherished no such bideous purposes. He did not believe that they were prosecuting the war for any purpose of subjugation or extermination, unless subjugation and extermination become necessary to the accomplishment of the real purpose they have in view. That purpose is the abolition of slavery in every State where it exists. This never has been a war for the Const tution and the Union, as the popular phrase goes, but it was inaugurated and has been conducted solely and exclusively for the purpose of abolishing slavery. War is the great shibboleth with which they expect to scourge slavery from the land, and maintain and perpetuste their political ascendency. Until these objects are accomplished they do not intend that peace, harmony, and union shall prevail. The measure of the extent to which they will go will be just what the emergencies that arise in the progress of events may require. Should the path to the object of their desire lead them over the ruined, shattered, ject of their desire lead them over the ruined, shattered, dissevered fragments of a broken and dismembered Union, a torn, tattered, desecrated Constitution, and the ruins of a Government in which are concentrated all the best hopes of the patriot for freedom and civilization, not halting for a moment, they will press forward to the accomplishment of their wonted object regardless of consequences. Driven on by the irresistible impulse of a blind revolutionary zeal, hugging the delusive phautom of universal emancipation, inspired with the vain hallucination of giving freedom to four million slaves, they seem to know not that they are our million slaves, they seem to know not that they are reducing themselves and more than twonty-six million of their own race to the same condition, and sacrificing all the fruit of our revolutionary straggle.

Consider for a moment the consequence of turning loose in our milest these four million houseless, homeless, and prepertyless fugitives, with all the prejudices of race and caste existing among us. Right here is where the irrepressible conflict about which we heard so much begins.
These prejudices are "things which are of ourselves a part." We cannot get rid of them if we would. These freedmen will at once be brought in competition with the laboring masses in that section of the Union where the fates have east their lots in the agricultural region of the Northwest, and that, too, at a time of all others least auspicious, when the labor of the country is depressed, crushed to the earth by an almost fabulous amount of national indebtedness. Mischief making abolitionists will not be antished with emancipation, but they will inspire this race with the dream first of political the equality. The collision of conflicting principles and in-terests, the conflict of white and black labor, inspired by the prejudices of race and caste, which when fully aroused are stronger than any other, will inevitably produce a col-lision of races. If it ever begins, and I believe it will, then the poor African wil have occasion, if there ever was such an occasion, to exclaim "God save me from my friends!" Then we shall have a renewal of the terrible conflict between the Spaniards and the Moora, which for old and implacable ferocity is without a parallel in history. There the prejudices of race and casts were arrayed against each other, inspired by that pride and heroic chivalry which was the characteristic of that age. That contest resulted in the annihilation and ostracism of the Moorish from the soil of Spain. And if this contest between the races here ever begins it will not stop short of the extermination of the colored race, and none of us will live to see the end of the demoralizing consequences of such a struggle. Surely, then, this is an unwelcome feast to which we are inviting the colored people of our country.

These are the only legitimate fruits of the war. It bodes
no good either to the white or colored race.

Mr. W. held that there is no conflict of principles between

the North and the South. Our troubles have grown out of differences of opinion as to the construction of the Constitution upon matters affecting the rights of the States, their institutions, and the right of individuals to be secure in the possession and enjoyment of private property. If these conflicting opinions were reconciled the cause of the war would cease to exist and the war with it. Then the war would cease to exist and the war with it. Then (said he) let us reconcile those conflicting opinions, as they only can be reconciled, by mutual concessions—the North by removing every ground of apprehension and making every man, woman, and child feel a conscious sense of security in the Union, in the undisturbed possession and enjoyment of all the institutions of their Sixtes and the contract of their systems. and the rights of their persons; the South by coming back into the Union, yielding an implicit and willing obedieuce to its authority; and, thus united, to devote all our energies to the reparation of the injuries and ravages of war, and, as one happy and prosperous people, renew our march on the great highway of progress and of Christian civilization to that goal which a beneficient Benefactor has set in store for us.

Mr. SCHENCK, from the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the ments to the conscription bill, made a report, which, after explanation, was agreed to—yeas 71, pays 2
And then the House adjourned to Tuesday.

DESERTERS FROM THE ENEMY.

A circular issued from the military headquarters of the Department of Washington directs that, in accordance with instructions from the Secretary of War, deserters from the enemy who come into our lines, and on examination prove to be bons fide deserters, with the intention of taking the oath of allegiance under the President's amnesty proclamation, shall be sent to the Provost Marshal General defences south of the Potomac, by whom they will be released on taking the oath of allegiance. It is further ordered that the borres of such persons shall be bought by the Quartermaster's Department, at a valuation determined by a board of appraisement, if the public service needs them, or be kept in their possession for such disposition as they shall elect to make of them. No persoual property, excepting arms, will be taken from

A FIGHT NEAR DRAINSVILLE.

On Monday morning, about 11 o'clock, as a detachment f the 21 Massachusetts cavalry, under command of Capt L. Reed, who had been out on a scouting expedition, were returning towards Drainsville, (Va.) on the way to Vienna, they were attacked on the Drainsville pike, about two miles from the latter place, by a gang of rebel guerrills*, supposed to be under Mosby, concealed in the pines. In the detachment of the 2d Massachusetts there were one In the detachment of the Su Mosby, it is supposed, had at hundred at d fifty men, while Mosby, it is supposed, had at head between two and three hundred men. The 2d Mashundred at d fifty men, while knowly, it is supposed, and at least between two and three hundred men. The 2d Mas-sachu-cits were fired upon from the dense pine woods near Drain-ville, and retreated. Afterwards eight of our men were found dead and seven wounded, while it is supposed that at least fifty or seventy five were taken prise ers—at least so many are missing, though, as scattering ones are coming in from time to time, the number wil doubtless be considerably reduced. Among the prisoners is Capt. Manning, of Maine. Capt. J. S. Reed, the commander of the detachment, was shot through the left lung, and died a few moments after being wounded. Mosby beat a precipitate retreat. Troops were at once sent in pursuit of the guerrillas, but the pursuing party has not

The Hen. EDWARD W. WHELPLEY, Chief Justice of New Jersey, died at Morristown on Sunday. He was a lawyer of high ability, of great force and decision of character, and was universally estoemed throughout the